

(c)            REMARKS

The claims are 8-12 and 15-19 with claims 8 and 15 being independent. The claims were amended to clarify that in the second photolithographic step a part of the photolithographic resin composition is removed. Claims 1, 5-7, 13 and 14 were cancelled. Reconsideration of the claims is expressly requested. The cancelled claims will not be addressed further.

Claims 1, 5-12 and 15-19 were rejected as obvious over Kubota '107 in view of Imai '914. The grounds of rejection are respectfully traversed.

Claims 8 and 15 were amended to clarify that step (3) the second photolithographic step comprises removing a part of the photolithographic resin composition, not a part of the substrate, while maintaining the first ink flow pattern, to prepare a level difference shape in the pattern when the first pattern is placed on the second pattern as shown in Figs. 15, 16, 26 and 27. Typically, a second main chain decomposition of the photosensitive resin composition is conducted with a different wavelength than in forming the first pattern to form the second pattern. An ink flow pattern of the first and second patterns has a convex or step-wise shape with a level difference.

To the contrary Kubota does not disclose that a portion of the photolithographic resin composition is removed to form a step or convex pattern shape. As noted by the Examiner on page 4 of the official action an anisotropic etching is performed from the rear surface of the substrate to form a supply aperture in paragraph [0072]. This is said to be equivalent to “removing a part of the substrate”.

The present claims have been clarified to show that it is not the substrate which is etched, but a portion of the photolithographic resin composition not employed in

the first pattern. A highly accurate level difference pattern is formed by the present method which uses a different concept and approach than Kubota.

The amendment should be entered, the claims allowed and the case passed to issue.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

/Peter Saxon/  
Peter Saxon  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 24,947

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York, New York 10112-3801  
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

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